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Saigon Students demonstrate against the US aggressors and their valets before the puppet "National Assembly" building.

editorial

US AGGRESSORS WILL BE SWEPT OUT OF INDOCHINA

FOR two months now, the war has been spreading to the whole of the Indochinese peninsula. After provocations and violations of Cambodia's border, the American imperialists engineered a putsch against her Head of State and, finally, mounted an open invasion of her territory. At the same time they have been feverishly trying to implement the "Vietnamization" program. In Laos, while carrying on devastating bombings and shellings and murderous sweeps in the liberated zone, they have introduced American, Thailand and Saigon combat ground forces. Very clearly, the US aggressive war has been stepped up to an unprecedented scale and intensity.

The Americans and their lackeys in Saigon are bragging of their strong posture and the prospective quelling of the revolutionary movement as the result of the Liberation troops' "exhaustion." They are dreaming of "relaxation," of an early end to the war and are clamouring about the ability of Saigon army to replace US combat forces, about Washington's determination to withdraw US troops according to plan. Is it true that the balance of forces in South Viet Nam and in Indochina as a whole has been tipped in favour of the US?; that the US has wriggled out of the quagmire of its aggressive war?; that the Saigon junta's mercenary troops are in a position to simultaneously guard their own house and invade another country? US - puppet reckless expansion of the war accompanied by untold crimes against the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao peoples, does not spell out any change for the better in their situation. It rather looks like a cornered wild beast's squirms, the last flare-up of a flame about to go out. Nixon's move is a last-ditch attempt of a losing gambler ; the history of imperialist aggression has already furnished countless examples like this. Didn't the French aggressors, in the throes of their imminent collapse in Indochina, open a new front at Dien Bien Phu? In 1965, while neck-deep in their morass in South Viet Nam, the Americans launched an airwar of destruction against the DRVN, the eventual unconditional halt of which made it possible to convene the quadripartite Paris Conference. Nixon is hoping to transform his losing position into a winning one, to secure a position of strength on the battlefield and, consequently, at the bargaining table, thereby staving off the transparent bankruptcy of the so-called "Vietnamization of the war."

NEVERTHELESS, the hard facts on the Indochinese war theatre as in the US over the past two months have shown that Nixon has made a miscalculation. What was to happen has happened. In Viet Nam and Laos, the US has lost the war it had imposed on the peoples of these countries. In Cambodia, it is reaping the bitter fruits of its invasion. The situation in all the three countries of Indochina evidently points to the aggravation of the defensive, losing posture of US imperialism. Keeping their initiative and offensive posture, the people of South Viet Nam continue to assail their

(Continued page 8)

US Social Fabric Is Cracking

THE Nixon Administration's war of aggression in Indochina is aggravating US workers' internal dissensions and isolation. Undeniably, not only progressives, students, women, intellectuals and soldiers, but also politicians in growing numbers are opposing the Administration's enlarging of the aggressive war.

This has been fully borne out by developments in the last few months since Nixon spread the war to the whole of Indochina. Throughout the United States, an unprecedented anti-Nixon popular movement has been set in motion under most diversified forms. The 200,000 people strong rally in front of the White House was a mammoth demonstration of strength and a forceful expression of the American people's will and aspiration for an end to the war and repatriation of US troops. More than 500 Universities and Colleges were brought to a standstill as a result of a class boycott by tens of millions of students who, supported by their professors, shouted: "We won't go !". Moreover, for the first time in US history, a student representative cried out, "In the name of our dead we call on you to topple this Administration" (i.e. the Nixon Administration). Again for the first time in US history, the intellectuals began to play their special role in politics, as *Newsweek* remarked in its May 13 issue. Also for the first time in US history, the anti-war movement contaminated US military bases and forced the government to cancel a routine troop review in commemoration of the founding of US armed forces. For the first time in US history too, US trade unions took part on a large-scale in political activities closely linked with their struggle for democratic rights and better living conditions. For the first time in US history, judges took to the streets against the Administration. For the first time in US history, the National Church Council, with a 42-million membership, condemned the Nixon Administration for its disregard of the Constitution, international agreements and conventions. The Black people have clearly realized that their battle for freedom and equal rights cannot be dissociated from the Indochinese peoples' fight for peace and independence.

The flame of opposition to the war is blazing higher and higher. Nixon has been resorting to every means to put it out: speeches have been delivered, press conferences called, demagogic promises given to make believe that what the war protesters were urging constituted precisely his own concern and that he was giving careful consideration to their demands. On the other hand, he has unleashed his police, civil guards and even troops on the popular movement. Cudgels, tear gases and even rifles have been used against it. Nixon's bullets have killed American citizens right on American soil. Thus a demarcation line has been drawn between the interests of the Nixon Administration and those of the American people. Between them, there has appeared quite big a gap. That is a clear indication of the weakness and estrangement of the Administration, and an indisputable proof of the serious split within the United States. The 200-year old US history has experienced more than one case of dissension, but the present one is indeed the most dramatic.

THERE are still more dangerous signs of cracking for the US rulers. More and more dissentient voices are raised in political circles. They are not the usual isolated voices of the opposition. They rather come from the ruling Party and members of the Nixon Administration itself, uttered by people who begin now to see the truth. They are those of congressmen who come out against the extension of the war to all Indochina. Senator R. Young who took part in the protest movement said: "We're here to overthrow Nixon. We're here to overthrow the militarists. We're here to chase them out of Viet Nam." Senator Brooke who was present at a demonstration of American intellectuals declared: "We're here to support your struggle which is totally righteous."

The Senates of Massachusetts and Hawaï, in adopting laws prohibiting citizens from participating in any undeclared war, dealt indeed deadly blows at Nixon's policy of aggression. More recently, the US Senate put to discussion a draft bill to cut all appropriations for military operations in Cambodia: this was a still more stinging blow at Nixon's war extension scheme. It is true that the Massachusetts Senator James Shea who sponsored the draft bill has been driven to commit suicide, and that Nixon was seeking by all means to prevent or at least to postpone its passage by the Senate, but it is an established fact that nothing can check the mounting opposition in US political circles to Nixon's policy.

The protest movement has reached even the White House and shaken the Nixon Cabinet to its foundations. Melvin Laird, the Defence Secretary, and William Rogers, the State Secretary, apparently do not see eye to eye with their President on the expansion of the war to the whole of Indochina. It is not a mere accident that Nixon acknowledged that he alone was responsible for the decision to commit US troops to an aggression against Cambodia. Not a few officials in the Nixon Administration have shown their disagreement by resigning their posts. On May 25, White House spokesman Ziegler had this to declare: "Everyone is free to decide to stay on and fulfill his routine task or to go away." Clearly enough, there were people who went away, for instance Hickel, Secretary for the Interior, Morfit, responsible for relations with the Youth, Morlin Halperin, National Security Council advisor; James Allen, Director General for Education, etc. Ziegler moreover admitted that five members of Henry Kissinger's office had tendered their resignations. James Allen explained his act of dissent as follows: "I find it very difficult to understand the logic of our getting into Cambodia and continuing the war in Viet Nam."

Mention could be made of many other dissenting voices with the US government's policy of aggression and of war extension in Indochina. Together with actual deeds of dissociation from such a policy, they supply so many signs of cracking within the Nixon Administration.

EVERYBODY can see for himself that Nixon's Indochina policy is detrimental not only to the Indochinese people but also to the Americans. War expenditures have swallowed up Johnson's Great Society programme, moreover they are making onerous demands on American citizens' pockets. High taxes and impositions are weighing heavily on the shoulders of tens of millions of Black people and of lower class White people as well. The shadow of war is looming large in the life of intellectuals and churchmen. War is driving many businessmen to bankruptcy, ruining millions of workers out of their jobs. It is robbing mothers and daughters of their dear ones. It is offending the conscience of men and women whose hearts still prize freedom and justice. It is smearing the honour of the United States. How then can Americans still in their right minds sit idle while the flame of aggressive war kindled by Nixon in Indochina is mounting and scorching the good fame of the American nation and jeopardizing their own peaceful life.

The vigour and steady growth of their protest and its just character certainly vouch for its success.

Senator W. Fulbright has admitted that the anti-war drive by the Americans was dividing the United States. The root of this lies in the aggression carried out by the United States against the Indochinese peoples. In disregarding the American people's legitimate aspirations, and continuing and enlarging its cruel war, the Nixon Administration is broadening and deepening the gulf separating it from the American people, and this will soon swallow it up.

THIEN LY

IN THE CITIES

"To Light a Lamp and Look for Democracy"

THE Thieu - Ky - Khiem clique continually boast that their "Second Republic" regime is legal and constitutional and represents freedom and democracy, etc....

Public opinion at home and abroad however is well aware that this is merely a deception. Senator Eagleton pointed out that the Saigon regime was composed only of elements who had fought for the French against their own people (UPI, Oct. 19, 1969). *Senator McGovern affirmed that the same regime was not a group of patriots, but it was a gang of traitors despised by the South Vietnamese people, and considered by them as an offspring of a foreign power, ready to massacre their own Vietnamese fellow-countrymen in the hope of keeping the considerable support of the foreign power* (Progress, *Sept* 1969 *issue*).

Saigonese MP Ho Ngoc Nhuan wrote: "Formally, the so-called democratic system was set up throughout the country by a series of elections. We are however afraid that it was only a network of colossal scarecrows erected on our national field, which will crumble in the first storm. Hardly had three years elapsed since the proclamation of the Constitution of the "Second South Viet Nam Republic" when this Constitution was torn to pieces. The last illusion about democracy has finally vanished."

Exposing the fascist, dictatorial police regime of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, another Saigonese MP wrote on March 15: "I wonder where democracy is now, whether it blossoms under this Second Republic (i.e. the Thieu regime) when policemen rushed into the National Assembly building, arrested a deputy, handcuffed him and threw him out into the streets; when even his decoration (conferred on him by Thieu) was hurled on the ground."

The newspaper Cong Luan *(Public opinion) wrote on March 18 in an article entitled "Looking for Democracy": "In the Republic of Viet Nam, the regime is allegedly democratic and based on legality, but paradoxically enough, many MPs have to light a lamp to look for democracy".*

GIs demonstrate against US war of aggression in South Viet Nam

May 1970

US-Puppet Defence System under Fierce Attacks

MAY 1970 was marked by repeated attacks by South Viet Nam's people and armed forces on the enemy on all fronts.

Over **1,000** *US-puppet bases and positions, including airfields and military depots*, came under artillery or infantry assaults.

Waves of concerted offensives which took place successively in May – especially on 4, 7, 9, 15... According to Western sources, each wave hit *from 50 to 64 targets*—which showed the continual and powerful offensive posture of the PLAF.

Enemy casualties were estimated at **38,000** (**6,000** *GIs and ratellite troops*). *Losses in war material* included **700** *military vehicles*, over half of them tanks and armoured cars destroyed, **400** *aircraft* downed or damaged, *millions of litres of fuel burnt, thousands of tons of ammunition ruined*. The enemy admitted that "*the number of Americans killed in Viet Nam war action was the highest in more than eight months, South Vietnamese losses were the heaviest since the first week of the Tet offensive in February,* 1968" (UPI, May 14, 1970).

Intensified guerilla warfare spread :"Strategic hamlets" which the enemy had painstakingly built up in previous months and 50% of which had come under heavy fire in April, were again subjected to PLAF devastating raids ; they were dismantled *en masse*. The population who had been under enemy grip, rose up to wrest back their right as masters, set up revolutionary power, build fighting villages and expand the liberated areas. Concentrated blows were dealt throughout South Viet Nam to the "pacification" program. Many fruitful battles were fought which gave a strong fillip to the masses' concerted uprisings.

In Tri-Thiên-Hue : On the US-puppet *Route No 9 Defence line*, in enemy "pacified" areas, in the rear-land of *Quang Tri* and the city of *Hue*, PLAF engaged adverse forces and exacted a *toll of* **7,000** *casualties, including* **1,600** *GIs, destroyed more than* **130** *military vehicles, downed or damaged more than* **100** *aircraft*. This is one of the months which witnessed the highest enemy losses in man power and war means there. The US-puppets reacted by deploying **7** battalions in a long-drawn "mop-up" against the highland areas North-West of Hue. But this move taken in passivity not only failed to check PLAF advance, but even ended disastrously for them : **1,000** *troops put out of action*, **50** *planes destroyed or downed*. A series of onslaughts by Liberation Fighters which wiped out the enemy's mobile main forces and foiled their "sweeps," contributed to the defence of the liberated areas and made it possible for guerilla warfare to develop. They also shattered the coercive apparatus and "rural defence system" of the enemy. Guerilla units, helped by the population, knocked out of action hundreds of cruel thugs and "rural development cadres" in delta districts and even in *Hue* city wards. Hundreds of "strategic hamlets" were demolished and "concentration sectors" blotted out, whereas the liberated areas were enlarged.

In the **Central and Southern Trung Bo** battlefield, *more than* **15,000** *enemy troops were wiped out* in May, among them *more than* **2,000** *GIs*, **374** *military vehicles were destroyed*, **220** *aircraft grounded*, **150** *tons of ammunition and* **4** *million litres of fuel set on fire.*

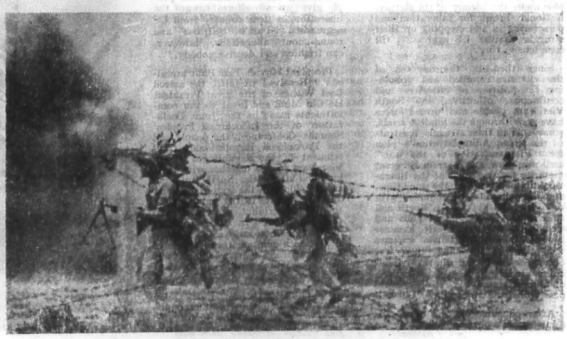
In May, the Central Trung Bo was the scene of many destructive battles: for instance, the attack on *Hiep Duc* military subsector, in which **2,800** *enemy troops, including over* **900** *GIs were disabled*, and all the three battalions of puppet Regiment No 5 badly mauled, **20** tanks and armoured cars put out of commission, **100** *aircraft bagged*. There was also the raids on ESEPIC military camp *(Binh Thuan* province*), Tan Tao* car-park (High Plateaux), the military training centre, the telecoms centre, the Radio station *(Tuyen Duc* province*)* in which thousands of enemy were wiped out, over 50 per cent of them consisting of officers and technical personnel. Mention should also be made of the operations on the townships of *Gia Nghia, Dalat*, the coups on *Da Nang* airfield, *Trinh Minh The* harbour, *Cam Ranh* military port which resulted in the *destruction of* **450** *tons of ammunition and more than* **4** *million litres of fuel*. As far as the action against "pacification" is concerned, the High-Plateaux people and armed forces since April *erased more than* **150** *"concentration sectors" and liquidated more than* **1,700** *cruel members of "pacification teams."* Taking advantage of the predicament of the 1st US Marine Division, and "Americal" Division which were busy with the defence of urban centres and other mobile units on *Dak Sieng, Dak Pet* fronts, the people and armed forces of all the five delta provinces struck repeatedly at the enemy system of posts and positions as well as at the "popular defence forces." The US-puppet situation in this region *went from bad to worse* and the Abrams Command had to reinforce puppet Division 22 stationed there with US Paratroop Brigade 173, Pak Jung Hi "White Horse" Division and two brigades of US Infantry Division 4, coming from the High Plateaux purposedly to prop up the "pacification program". But it is precisely in *Binh Dinh* and *Phu Yen*, the two most densely population and richest provinces of Central Trung Bo, that "pacification" was the most unsuccessful. During May, in *Binh Dinh* alone, **2,000** *enemy were knocked out* and the people rose up to *get rid of the coercive apparatus in* **69** *villages* (**123,000** *participants*). The US-puppets stationed in this area had to acknowledge that "*The Viet Cong had mounted violent attacks and the 'pacification' plan in these two provinces came near to failure*" (AFP, April 29).

In Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper) where 70 per cent of enemy were concentrated for "mop ups" in support of "pacification" campaigns, the weakness of the US-puppets was most apparent, especially in the *Mekong Delta*. Their forces had had to be spread thin over several theatres of operation and had been heavily decimated in the course of several months of arduous efforts against guerilla warfare. Then in May, a major part of them had to be committed to the aggression against Cambodia, and consequently the enemy's defence system was further stretched thin. His coercive apparatus was seriously damaged. In May, the US-puppets were pinned down in their posts and were almost unable to undertake any sweeping operation outside the area under their control. In the flush of their April successes, in May, Nam Bo's people and armed forces pushed up their powerful drive to regain political masterhood. *More than* **10,000** *US-puppets were wiped out (among them* **6,000** *in the three provinces of Ben Tre, My Tho and Ca Mau)*, 3 battalions of puppet Divisions 7 and 21 seriously trounced, **110** *military vehicles* (including 80 *tanks and armoured cars*) destroyed, **100** *aircraft downed*. Devastating blows were dealt by the PLAF, further aggravating the enemy's crisis in troop strength : at the *Tan Hiep* military training centre alone (*My Tho province*), **400** enemy men were disabled (including 2 *companies of student-officers entirely written off* ; at *Tay Ninh, Binh Long, more than* **1,000** *adverse troops were knocked out* in an engagement ; two Aussie platoons wiped out in an ambush at *Ba Ria, Long Khanh* and many thugs and GIs disabled right in downtown Saigon, etc... On the anti-"pacification" front, Nam Bo people and armed forces put out of action **50** *units of company*, and platoon-size "pacification" teams. Ten of thousands of people in western provinces, rose up and shattered their shackles, pulled down their concentration camps, set up revolutionary power and demolished block by block the enemy system of "pacified" hamlets and villages.

The May 1970 achievements of South Viet Nam, together with the resounding feats of arms of the Khmer and Lao peoples, prove that *the enemy effort to prolong and enlarge the war in Indochina has been accompanied by an aggravation of their predicament and failure.*

THANH HONG

PLAF in one of the May successful actions



JUNE 6 IN SOUTH VIET NAM AND

A grand meeting was held somewhere in the liberated zone on the morning of June 5, by the Provisional Revolutionary Government, the Advisory Council, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces to celebrate the first anniversary of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam (June 6).

Mr. Huynh Tan Phat, President, the Vice-Presidents and many Ministers of the Government, members of the Advisory Council of the Government, members of the Presidium of the National Front for Liberation Central Committee, the Secretary General and Deputy General-Secretaries of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces Central Committee, commanders of the People's Liberation Armed Forces and leaders of mass and religious organizations were present at the meeting.

About a thousand representatives of the people in the liberated zone, cadres of central and local offices of the revolutionary power, and fighters of the armed forces took part in this celebration.

The people in the US-occupied areas also sent their representatives to the meeting.

President Huynh Tan Phat delivered a speech greeting the anniversary of this historic event in the South Viet Nam revolution. He said:

"One year ago, on June 6, 1969, the All-South Viet Nam Representatives' Congress was convened to decide the line and policy to step up the struggle against US aggression, for national salvation, and to elect the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the Advisory Council of the Government.

This historic event marked the great victories recorded by our people and armed forces during 15 years of heroic struggle. This event once again reaffirmed the determination of the 14 million people of South Viet Nam, united in an iron-like bloc under the banner of the glorious National Front for Liberation and persevering in and stepping up their struggle against US aggression till complete victory.

Since then, in the impetus of the victories recorded and upholding the position of initiative and continuous offensive, the South Viet Nam people and armed forces have gone through the hardest trials, persevered in their struggle, frustrated the Nixon Administration's plan for "Vietnamization of the war" and won new and extremely great victories for the cause of the liberation of the South. At the same time, standing shoulder to shoulder with our kith and kin of the North and the brotherly peoples of Laos and Cambodia, we have dealt hammer blows at the US imperialists' schemes and acts of spreading their war of aggression to the whole of Indochina, reducing them to a position of unprecedented big failures, acute passiveness and serious predicament."

After pointing out the Nixon Administration's obstinate and bellicose nature as well as its perfidious and brutal schemes and actions, President Huynh Tan Phat highly appraised the valiant struggle of, and the splendid victories recorded by the South Viet Nam people and their armed forces in the past year under the PRG.

President Huynh Tan Phat sternly condemned the US war expansion to the whole of Indochina and heartily praised the undaunted fighting spirit and close unity between the three Indochinese peoples. He warmly welcomed the heroic Khmer people under the leadership of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the National United Front of Kampuchea, the heroic Lao people under the leadership of Prince Souphanouvong and the Lao Patriotic Front, who both have achieved resounding feats of arms, contributing to the brilliant common victory of the Indochinese peoples.

President Huynh Tan Phat exposed the US peaceful claims and acts of aggression and stressed:

"By those schemes and acts of aggression, the Nixon Administration is not reducing its "commitments" in Asia, instead, it is stepping up its intervention in this region by prolonging and spreading the war of aggression in Indochina. On the other hand, it has continuously gone ahead with its peace swindle. The US, through the reactionaries in Japan, Indonesia and Malaysia... are campaigning for a so-called "International Conference for Peace in Cambodia and Indochina" with a view to covering up its schemes and acts of intensification and expansion of its war of aggression. On June 3, US President Nixon even trumpeted imaginary victories, the withdrawal of American invading troops from Cambodia before June 30, and the withdrawal of 50,000 more GIs from South Viet Nam before October 15 this year. But at the same time, Nixon arrogantly reserved for himself the right of continuous use of American forces in coordination with the Saigon puppet troops for invasion of Cambodia and even threatened the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, demanding that the Vietnamese people give up all efforts toward the liberation of their country from US aggression. Nixon's bellicose and round-about allegations, however, can frighten and deceive nobody."

President Huynh Tan Phat stressed: "Resolved to fulfil the sacred Last Wishes of the great President Ho Chi Minh and loyal to the commitments made in the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, the people and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam pledge together with their kith and kin in the North, to stand side by side with the fraternal Khmer and Lao peoples in the fight against the US imperialist aggressors and their henchmen — the common enemy of the three nations — so as to sweep the Indochinese peninsula clean of the American aggressors and win back complete independence for their own country."

Speaking next, Mr Phan Xuan Thai, member of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, highlighted the great and all-round achievements recorded by the South Viet Nam armed forces and people in the past years, especially since the formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN, and condemned the US imperialists for intensifying their aggressive war in South Viet Nam, continuing to infringe the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, expanding the war in Laos, master-minding the coup d'Etat in Cambodia and openly invading Cambodia.

Phan Xuan Thai criticized the deceitful claims made by Nixon in his June 3 address, and reiterated the determination of the Indochinese peoples to oppose their common enemy — US imperialism.

He stressed: "Though long and arduous, our people's fight is unfolding in very favourable conditions in our country and the rest of Indochina and the world. Our enemy is facing unsolvable difficulties and their ultimate failure is inevitable."

On behalf of the NFL's Central Committee, Phan Xuan Thai called on the South Viet Nam people and their armed forces to redouble their efforts in all fields in order to win yet bigger victories over the US aggressors and their lackeys.

He said:

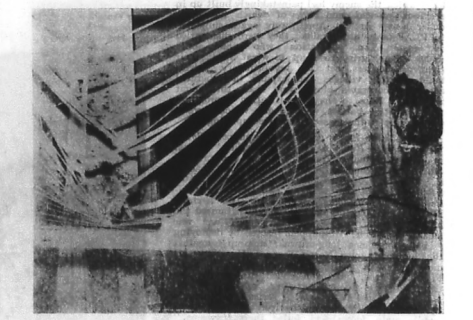
"Abiding by their commitments made in the Joint Declaration of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples, the South Vietnamese people pledge themselves, together with their North Viet Nam kith and kin, to stand shoulder to shoulder with the brother Cambodian and Lao peoples, make all-out efforts to best fulfil the sacred tasks of the nation, actively contribute to the common victory of the Indochinese peoples in the fight against the US imperialists and their henchmen."

Professor Ton That Duong Ky, Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, on behalf of the Alliance's CC, greeted the RSVN PRG and hailed the achievements of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people. Laying stress on the surging struggle of the townspeople, he said:

"The movement of the South Viet Nam urban people has taken a new turn in developing strongly and broadly from Ca Mau to Tri Thien—Hue areas. It is constantly directed against plunder, exploitation, persecution and repression, and fighting for the rights to live and other national and democratic rights. The struggle for vital and democratic rights has been waged fiercely and on an ever broader scale. Since early this year, the struggle of students, pupils, disabled soldiers of the puppet army, Buddhist believers, presamên, and writers has given the US-puppets big headaches."

He stressed:

"The US imperialists and their hirelings have been meeting with bitter setbacks. But they remain very obdurate and tricky. Continuing their traditions glorified by the August Revolution, the March 19 movement against US imperialism, the overthrow of Ngo Dinh Diem and Ngo Dinh Nhu, the Spring 1968 offensives and uprisings etc., the people in the South Viet Nam towns will certainly smash all brutal and perfidious schemes of the enemy. Their historic mission to rise up against the US aggressors and topple the puppets right in their last strongholds will surely be brought to fruition".



The window of the so-called Information Bureau of the Thieu-Ky administration smeared and destroyed by Swedish demonstrators under the slogan," Immediately break with the Thieu-Ky puppet administration!"

IN THE WORLD

The first anniversary of the SVN Congress of People's Representatives and of the formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam has been commemorated in many countries, preliminary reports said.

Rally in honour of the RSVN PRG in Tokyo

Photo: **Japan Press Service**

IN THE USSR

On June 2, representatives of the masses took part in a gathering organized by the Moscow Committee of the Communist Party, the Central Council of the Trade - Unions of the USSR, the Central Committee of the Komsomol, the Association for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Support Viet Nam Committee and the Committee of Soviet Youth organizations.

Present at the meeting were V. Grishin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CP Central Committee, First Secretary of the Moscow Party Committee, V.I. Kochemarov, Vice - Premier of the Ministers of the Soviet and Socialist Republic of the Russian Federation, N.P. Firubin, Vice - Minister of the USSR Foreign Ministry, and other leading officials of mass organizations and social segments of the USSR. On the Vietnamese side, there were Dang Quang Minh, Ambassador of the RSVN and Nguyen Tho Chan, Ambassador of the DRVN.

Speaking at the occasion, Kochemarov pointed out: "The PRG of the RSVN has stemmed from the heroic and persevering struggle of the South Vietnamese patriots for freedom and independence." He strongly denounced US intensifying and expanding of its aggressive war to the whole of Indochina. The speaker stressed: "In keeping with V.I. Lenin's principles on foreign policy, the Soviet Union has been supporting and helping comprehensively the Vietnamese people, and will continue to do so in the future."

IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

On June 4, the German Socialist Unity Party Central Committee, the GDR Council of Ministers and the National Council of the National United Front of Democratic Germany called a meeting attended by over a thousand Berliners, representatives of all walks of life. Vice-Premier of the GDR Wolfang Ranchfuss lauded the SVN people's gallant struggle against the US and their lackeys and sternly condemned the US expansion of the war to the whole of the Indochinese peninsula. He also denounced the West German administration for supporting the US criminal war in Indochina.

In Leipzig, Dresden, Magdeburg, Halle, Rostock, etc., local organizations in cooperation with foreign students and Vietnamese trainees and post-graduates in these cities held meetings, exhibitions, film shows to mark the occasion.

IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A meeting convened by the Central Committee of the National Front of Czechoslovakia took place on June 4.

Attending were E. Erbal, member of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and President of the CC of the National Front of Czechoslovakia, J Corsac, member of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, Vice-Premier of the SRC and Premier of the Czech Socialist Republic, ministers and representatives of mass organizations.

In a speech, Secretary General of the CC of the National Front Milos Vacik laid emphasis on the significance of the formation of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government and reaffirmed that the Communist Party, Government, National Front and people of Czechoslovakia will always stand by the side of the Vietnamese people in their legitimate resistance.

IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

A commemorative ceremony for the first anniversary of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN was held at the Moranbong theatre, Pyong Yang.

In the attendance were Seu Tcheul, member and Han Ik Sou, alternate member, of the Labour Party Presidium, as well as many Party and Government leaders, and representatives of mass organizations. On the Vietnamese side there were Vu Ngoc Ho, Ambassador of the RSVN and Tran Van Thanh, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the DRVN.

Taking the floor, Chon Chang Chon, President of the Korean Trade Unions and of the Korean Committee of support to the South Viet Nam people's struggle, warmly welcomed the great successes scored by the South Viet Nam NFL and the PRG of the RSVN, and flayed the US aggressors' extension of the war to all Indochina. "The Korean people," he stressed, "regard American aggression against the Vietnamese people as one against themselves; they will concentrate efforts on backing the Viet Nam fight for national salvation until complete victory and, if need be, they will fight with them on the battlefield."

IN THE PEOPLE REPUBLIC OF MONGOLIA

On the Presidium of the impressive meeting for the first anniversary of the formation of the PRG of the RSVN sat D. Gombojab, Vice-Chairman of the PRM Council of Ministers, and representatives of the Mongolia – Viet Nam Friendship Association and of RSVN and DRVN embassies.

G. Jamian, President of the Mongolian Committee of Support to the Vietnamese People's Struggle, pointed out: "The just fight waged by the Vietnamese to achieve freedom and independence has enlisted the backing of world progressive opinion. The Party, Government and people of Mongolia lend total support to the fraternal people of Viet Nam; it is their confidence that the latter will win in this fight against the American imperialist aggressors and their valets in Saigon."

IN FRANCE

Viet Nam News Agency Paris correspondent reported: "Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, RSVN Foreign Minister, gave a reception in the French capital at the Information Office of the RSVN on June 4, to mark the first anniversary of the formation of the PRG. Present at the reception on the Vietnamese side were: Nguyen Minh Vy, and other members of the DRVN delegation to the Paris conference on Viet Nam, Tran Viet Dung, acting delegate general of the DRVN in France. Among the guest were: M.F. Maurice, chief of the Asian - Australian Department of the French Foreign Ministry, J. Sainteny and other former French ministers, ambassadors and Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the socialist countries, Chau Seng and Chan Youran, ministers of Cambodia's Royal Government of National Union. Also attending were J. Duclos, R. Guyot, and F. Billoux, members of the Political Bureau, and many members of the CC of the French Communist Party; representatives of the French Peace Movement, the French-Viet Nam friendship Association, the CGT, the Communist Youth movement, the Women's Union and other French mass organizations, members of the Executive Committee of the Vietnamese Nationals' Union in France and of the Liaison Committee of the Forces Struggling for Peace, Independence and Neutrality in South Viet Nam, Vietnamese personalities, intellectuals, students, businessmen and workers, as well as representatives of Lao and Khmer students in France, and many French and foreign personalities, intellectuals and journalists, and American sympathizers.

OCTOBER 12, 1968. San Francisco antiwar march was organized and led by several hundred active-duty GIs. Actions such as these are the GIs answer to brass who harass antiwar soldiers.

SAMDECH HEAD OF STATE NORODOM SIHANOUK

Prime Minister PHAM VAN DONG:

"THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO HAVE THE BROTHER KHMER PEOPLE FOR A NEIGHBOUR"

Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK:

"THE DRVN IS THE PRIDE OF OUR INDOCHINA"

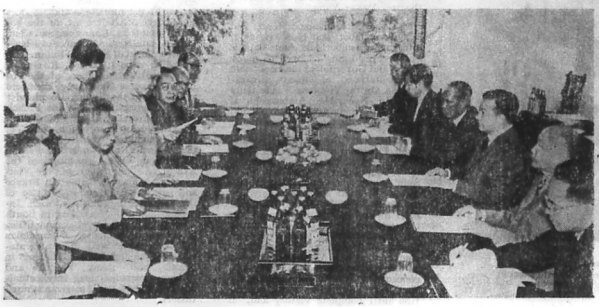
AT the invitation of President Ton Duc Thang, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, President of the National United Front of Kampuchea (FUNK), accompanied by Princess Monique Sihanouk, Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea, Chairman of the Politbureau of the FUNK, and his wife, and other Cambodian VIP's arrived in Hanoi on May 25, 1970 on an official visit to the DRVN. He was warmly welcomed by the leaders of the DRVN and the population of the Capital City.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the other distinguished Cambodian guests attended on the evening of May 26 a state reception given by President Ton Duc Thang.

President Ton Duc Thang and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk had cordial talks. (Photo below)

The Hanoi City Council called on the evening of May 27 a big rally in honour of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and personalities of his suite.

Important speeches were delivered on this occasion by Premier Pham Van Dong and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, large excepts of which are given on this page.



"... THE Vietnamese people and the DRVN Government pledge themselves to make all-out efforts to support the just struggle of the fraternal Khmer people against the American imperialist aggressors and their henchmen the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique till total victory. We warmly welcome the Royal Government of National Union as the sole legitimate and legal government of Cambodia. We resolutely demand that the US withdraw immediately and totally its troops and the Saigon puppet troops from Cambodian territory.

... The Vietnamese people and the DRVN Government will unfailingly honour the sacred commitments inscribed in the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference. They have respected and will respect the independence, peace, neutrality, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia within her present borders. They have respected and will respect her national rights and her political regime.

The Vietnamese people and the DRVN Government undertake to do all they can so that all the future generations of our two peoples will live in concord, mutual love and respect, so that they may be cordially united and support each other with all their forces in the fight against the common enemy as well as for long-term co-operation in the building of their countries, each in its own way."

Photo (above) :
President Ton Duc Thang and Premier Pham Van Dong warmly welcoming Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and his party on their arrival at Hanoi.

"... NIXON has greatly publicized his so-called irrevocable decision to withdraw all US ground forces from Cambodia at the end of next June.

But even if such a withdrawal takes place, it does not mean that my country will *ipso facto* recover its independence, neutrality and peace.

The satellite forces of the Thieu-Ky puppets have threatened to stay without limit in space or time in Cambodia where they will behave as in a conquered country.

The Lon Nol clique leaps for joy over it, while the Khmer people cannot tolerate such an occupation and such a colonization which are as anachronistic as it is impudent....

... In such conditions it is inconceivable that we should ever accept the terms of the enemy who demands that the Khmer people down their arms even without being defeated, and that an "international conference" will "take charge" of our country, that is to say legalize the regime in Phnom Penh which has usurped constitutional power, as well as the new status of Cambodia as a new-type colony of the United States and of the latter's Saigon and Bangkok protégés... ?

... The people of Cambodia, through my voice, express their deep and eternal gratitude to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam for the total support, for so solid a backing and the important material assistance given them without any condition and in a spirit of complete fraternity for the triumph of their just cause.

Allow me also to express my warmest congratulations on their great successes which your government and your people, guided by the teachings of President Ho Chi Minh, have obtained in all the domains of peaceful and socialist construction.

War is the costliest thing in the world.

Having had to face it — the whole world knows with what heroism and at the price of what enormous sacrifices — the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has performed this unique *tour de force* by giving an extraordinary *élan* to her public works, her public health, her national education at all levels, her national economy, her industry and first of all her agriculture.

To describe such progress, I would like to use the term "miraculous" but I must make it clear that this is the miracle of the faith, the ingenuity, the industrious patience and the patriotism of the most talented people in the world — the Vietnamese people.

That is a very great lesson this people give to all those who, like them, want to win in all spheres the total war American imperialism has imposed on them.

Because such a war cannot be won with sheer courage and military skill. Such a war requires that the people concerned know also how to win the battle of social progress and of national economic rehabilitation."

VISITS THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK AND OUR ARMY HEROES

It was a fine sunny morning, May 25. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk received the SVN Army Heroes and Valiant Fighters' Delegation visiting the North in a large hall of the State Guests' House where he and Princess Monique were staying during his visit to the DRVN. Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the National United Front of Kampuchea and Prime Minister of Kampuchea's Royal Government of National Union, and other members of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's party were also present. Accompanying us were RSVN Ambassador to Cambodia and Madame Nguyen Van Hieu.

Cambodia's Head of State and Prime Minister welcomed us at the entrance door and hugged each of us. The former said: "It's a great honour and a great joy for us, Khmer resisters, to greet Your Excellency, and Madame Hieu and heroes of the Vietnamese people's resistance as very affectionate and admired brothers of our Fatherland, brothers who are fighting against American imperialism not only in the Vietnamese front-line, but at the same time defending the sacred cause of the whole of Indochina... It's a signal honour for us that you have personally come to visit us in Hanoi from the maquis, from liberated regions, zones, towns and countryside of South Viet Nam. We avail ourselves of this opportunity to tell our pride of being united with you, united in combat, united after victory, united for ever..."

Our hosts listened with keen interest to Ambassador Nguyen Van Hieu's short account of the achievements of each of us. Their attention was all the greater as they knew that we were just common people whose accomplishments were possible thanks to their love for their country, and to their profound hatred for the enemy. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said that our deeds contributed to the liberation not only of Viet Nam but also of the whole of Indochina, and "would be recorded in golden letters in universal history, in the history of progressive humanity."

On behalf of our delegation, NL voiced the indignation of the people and PLAF of SVN at the US and their Saigon lackeys' aggression against Cambodia, "a sovereign country which, under Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, uninterruptedly enjoyed independence and neutrality for the past fifteen years." He added that the South Vietnamese took pride in, and felt very encouraged by, the "Khmer people's enthusiastic response to Samdech's March 23 appeal, in the form of vigorous and devastating actions against the enemy".

Speaking of the common fight of the Indochinese peoples, the Cambodian Head of State emphasized: "Like the Vietnamese, they (the Khmer people) are a people with a long past, an old civilization, time-tested combat aptitude, war capabilities, as illustrated by the frescoes of the Angkor temples. The fact that they now have to resort again to military action will make them confident of their ability not only to wage war, but also, once victory is achieved together with the Vietnamese and Lao peoples, to make Cambodia progress more rapidly than before the coup d'etat."

With special gratification, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk recalled these words of Dr Trinh Dinh Thao, President of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces at the recent Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples: "We should perhaps congratulate Nixon and Lon Nol on their enabling us to cement unity between our two peoples, a close, unshakable and ever-lasting unity. The Khmer and Vietnamese peoples have never been so closely united, so affectionately bound to each other as after the March 18 coup d'etat and Nixon's invasion..."

Samdech told us of an idea of his he had mentioned to Premier Pham Van Dong. "After the war," he suggested, "let's erect at the Cambodian—South Vietnamese frontier a stone, not a border stone which will separate our two countries, but one which will mean mutual respect of each other's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity within its present frontiers, one which, instead of keeping us apart, will unite us."

Samdech Head of State (centre) having a friendly talk with our heroes now visiting North Viet Nam

On the Occasion of First Anniversary of the Establishment RSVN–Cambodia Diplomatic Relations (June 14)

GLORY TO OUR MILITANT SOLIDARITY!

SAIGON and Phnom Penh have ballyhooed the re-establishment of their "diplomatic relations" after Yem Sambaur's trip to South Viet Nam to beg for the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate's help and assistance. An admirer of Hitler, Nguyen Cao Ky himself went down to Phnom Penh to grant "assistance" to their congeners while Saigon mercenaries were treading on Cambodia like on a conquered land. Rather infamous this association of traitors!

It is beyond any doubt that such ludicrous antics do not affect at all the tiesof friendship between our two peoples. South Viet Nam-Cambodia true diplomatic relations have existed in the past as at present between the PRG of the Republic of SVN and the legal government of Cambodia under its Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. The history of these relations, an interesting contribution to international law, will exemplify the possibility for friendly peoples to set up fruitful connections in the conditions which do not necessarily meet the existing juridical norms, on the basis of mutual understanding and respect.

On May 4, 1969, Prince Norodom Sihanouk announced in Phnom Penh Cambodia's de jure recognition of the South Viet Nam NFL and the establishment of diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between Cambodia and South Viet Nam. It came as a great surprise to western embassies particulary as since the end of April last they had been speculating on a brutal break with Cambodia following the provocations committed by Lon Nol and his bosses along Cambodian frontier.

This simple example shed light on the shrewdness of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk who had always depended upon the friendship between our two peoples. It furthermore gave us an idea of the dark design of the prospective coup makers in Phnom Penh whose fad had always been a most execrable brand of racism.

Prince Sihanouk very soon realized immediately after the founding of the NFL, that the future of South Viet Nam is in the hands of the liberation fighters. This perspicacity was enhanced by an uncanny political courage. As early as 1963 Cambodia cut off her relations with the Saigon puppet regime and rejected US aid as a US imperialists' means of enslavement.

Insofar as the NFL is concerned, it has already won control of nearly all the South Viet Nam countryside and assumed the responsibility of an effective and strong revolutionary administration. In foreign relations, the NFL has been pursuing since its establishment—just like the PRG nine years later—a policy of peace and neutrality, especially a policy of friendship and good neighbourhood with Cambodia and Laos. In fact the NFL, then the PRG, has always respected the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the neighbouring countries. The contrast between the attitude of "authentic South Viet Nam"—to use Prince Sihanouk's words—and that of the Saigon guislings, is so striking that after the aggression against Cambodia by US troops and Thieu-Ky mercenaries the western press has had to refer to it. With regard to the peoples themselves, there prevails on the border-land an atmosphere of understanding and cordiality notwithstanding the frequent provocations staged by the Phnom Penh reactionaries working hand in glove with the Saigon quislings. The trumped-up story of "traditional enmity" between Vietnamese and Khmers reflects but the unavowed designs of the imperialists in their traditional divisive manœuvres.

Everything contributes to bring closer our two peoples, who share the same desire to live eternally side by side like good friends. Let us pay tribute to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk for having expressed with steadfastness and perseverance the profound sentiments of his people for the Vietnamese people.

The excellent relations now existing between the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia led by the FUNK evince a remarkable continuity in the policy of friendship and solidarity followed by the two governments. The naked aggression against Cambodia by GIs and puppet troops has strengthened these ties which, forged in the struggle against the common enemy, will fully develop in their future co-operation as soon as our two peoples have swept away the aggressors from their national territories.

Professor NGUYEN VAN HIEU
Ambassador of the Republic of South Viet Nam to Cambodia

STAUNCHLY BACK LAO PEOPLE'S ANTI-US PUPPET FIGHT

US expansion of the war to the whole of Indochina has most seriously aggravated the situation in Laos. This has been made clear by a Lao Patriotic Front spokesman recently in a declaration released on May 21: "Over the last few weeks, the US and its Saigon, Bangkok and Vientiane confederates have been contemplating a massive commitment of new Thailand mercenary troops and Saigon puppet forces to offensives on liberated areas held by the Lao patriotic forces."

Since Richard Nixon came to power, the US has been stepping up the US aggressive war in Laos to an unprecedented degree of fierceness. It has rapidly beefed up the puppet army and the number of American advisers, while bringing in new contingents of Thailand and US troops. The Lao mercenary army went up from 130 battalions in late 1968 to 150. Vang Pao's forces in particular increased from 64 to 84 battalions. At US instigation and under US advisers' command, repeated incursions were mounted into the liberated zone, most typical among them was Operation *Kuhiet* against Xieng Khoang and the Plain of Jars from August 1969 to February 1970. The Americans even used B-52s, and daily sorties of the USAF sometimes ran as high as 1,000, showering about 3,000 tons of bombs. In such operations, hundreds of villages were devastated, thousands of people—mostly old folks, women and children—and tens of thousands of them herded into concentration areas under Vientiane authorities' control.

Parallel to the prolongation of the war in South Viet Nam, the bombing of the DRVN and the invasion of Cambodia, war-escalation in Laos by the US once more exposes the Nixon Administration's bellicosity and stubbornness. The Vientiane government has in this process revealed its true colours as Washington's lackeys and traitors to the nation.

Those moves of US imperialism in the three countries of Indochina unmistakably show that it has slided into a hopeless plight. The patriotic forces led by the LPF with Prince Souphanouvong at its head, dealt telling punches at their enemy: in 1969 they put nearly 20,000 adverse soldiers out of action and downed over 200 aircraft; especially in the six months of the dry season (November 1969—April 1970), they wiped out 13,000 men and shot down 278 planes. They beat off Operation *Kuhiet* and recaptured Xieng Khoang and the Plain of Jars. This feat of strategic significance has paved the way for new successes of the Lao people's resistance: a great number of enemy troops wiped out at Nam Tha, Luang Prabang and other areas; the provincial capital Attopeu, the district town of Phalan liberated; the city of Saravane and other places harassed.

Those successes have frustrated Nixon's formula—mercenary troops plus maximum USAF fire power—devised to cope with the struggle of the Lao people. They have at the same time delivered a heavy blow at the Nixon doctrine, thus driving US imperialism and its Vientiane valets further onto the defensive.

On the other hand, construction work aimed at consolidating the liberated zone has been going on steadily. No less than a hundred hydraulic works have been started. Thousands of hectares of land have been reclaimed.

Not less remarkable here been achievements in the international arena. Socialist and newly independent countries, communist and workers' parties together with progressive peoples the world over have sternly condemned the Nixon Administration and given staunch-er support to the just cause of the Lao, Vietnamese and Khmer peoples. The World Peace Council observed a Week of Solidarity with the Lao People starting from May 17. More recently the International Conference to Back the Lao People's Struggle against US Imperialism opened in Cairo with the participation of over 160 delegates from 53 countries and 16 regional delegations and international organizations. The conference unanimously adopted a resolution severely scoring US imperialism and demanding that the US end all acts of aggression, stop its "special warfare", withdraw all US military personnel and Thailand mercenary troops, and first and foremost terminate bombings on Lao territory.

As a next-door neighbour and comrade-in-arms of the Lao people, the South Vietnamese will go on joining forces with them in the common fight against American aggression. A statement made public on May 22 by a spokesman of the PRG Foreign Ministry emphasized: "The people and the PRG of the RSVN strongly and sternly condemn US imperialism and the Saigon puppet administration for escalating their aggression into Laos, for extending the war all over Indochina, and firmly insist that they halt all acts of aggression in Laos and devastating and murderous bombings there."

DAI LIEN

A Pathet Lao AA elite unit

US AGGRESSORS...

(Continued from page 1)

opponent and score big successes. According to still incomplete data, in early April when the US warshalled a large force on the Cambodian border for the invasion, the PLAF struck at 1,200 targets and wiped out 30,000 men, including 20,000 GIs and satellite troops. In May, when US and Saigon forces had crossed the frontier, the PLAF eventually hit at all rear bases of the invading troops, putting out of action some 40,000, of which 6,000 GIs. Meanwhile the struggle of the population in the occupied zone has been forging ahead: the writ of the revolutionary power has been running even in the areas adjoining districts, towns and enemy military subsectors. The tough and protracted fight of the students, that of the workers and of the press and other social segments have caught the Thieu-Ky clique in a political stranglehold and forced them, step by step, to meet a number of their legimate demands.

In Cambodia, the US-installed Lon Nol-Sirik Matak regime is in a very precarious position. The newly-born Liberation armed forces have proved a good match for the American and Saigon invading troops, occupied many garrisons, military sectors and subsectors, destroyed a great deal of adverse manpower, and captured a sizeable quantity of war material. Hundreds of villages and dozens of districts with over a million population have been liberated. Incontestably, the Cambodian revolution is in an offensive posture and has achieved far-reaching results.

In Laos, the people and their armed forces have foiled all enemy incursions into the free zone, recaptured Xieng Khoang and the Plain of Jars, liberated the provincial capital of Attopeu, seized control of the Bolovens, and are exerting heavy pressure on the town of Saravane. In spite of enemy bombings and shellings, the free zone is more solid than ever before, a most favourable condition for the people and their armed forces to secure greater gains.

AROUND the world a drive against the US extension of the war has flared up with particular momentum. Together with progressive people everywhere, the governments of the USSR, China and the other socialist countries, and those of many developing countries have been strongly critical of the US blatant and brutal aggression. The declaration of Chairman Mao Tsetung, the great leader of the 700 million Chinese, that of the socialist countries' Mutual Economic Aid Council as well as the joint call of the Communist Parties of West European countries constituted another proof that progressive mankind stands by the Vietnamese, Khmer and Lao peoples. Widespread recognition of the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea has thwarted the US scheme to impose a political regime of its own choice on that country. World public opinion and millions of progressive Americans throughout the US oppose Nixon's aggressive policy. For the first time in American history, students called for the overthrow of their president, intellectuals played a particularly important role in politics, judges took to the streets, church councils and trade-union councils comprising millions of members demonstrated against their government—all of them fighting for the same objective: an end to the war and pull-out of US troops from Indochina. The Massachusetts and Hawaii State legislatures have prohibited their citizens' participation in any undeclared war, as well as the debate at the Federal Senate over the curtailing of war spending in Cambodia speak volumes for the Nixon Administration's political alienation at home. Nixon's invasion of Cambodia has driven a wedge unknown thus far in the ranks of the US Administration. For the first time in the US history a dozen high-ranking officials, including the Secretary for Education and members of the National Security Council, unequivocally came out against their president's policy. The Secretary of State and the Defence Secretary did not seem to concur with him. US allies, apart from fascist, militarist elements revived by Washington, did not agree to the extension of the war to Cambodia. Even satellites who used to follow the US and benefit from its fair and foul undertakings dared not declare for it. This illustrates US isolation abroad, and at the same time the strength of the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao peoples' cause.

THE aim of the US in expanding the hostilities to Cambodia is to transform Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's "oasis of peace" into a battlefield with a view to materialising the Nixon doctrine, namely, putting the Indochinese against the Indochinese, and by its agency realising the cherished dream of making Indochina an American military base and neo-colony. Washington was also to conceal and make good the failure of the "Vietnamization" program. Obviously, however, the US cannot turn the tide, its loss of initiative being more critical than ever before. With more than one million GIs and mercenaries it was unable to win in South Viet Nam. A military victory now that it is forced to go on reducing troop strength and simultaneously open a new front, is just day dream. Realities over the past two months demonstrate that the longer and the wider the US imperialists' aggressive war, the heavier their ultimate defeat.

In the light of the Declaration of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples, the Vietnamese, Cambodians and Laos will further close their ranks and toughen their determination to shatter the war scheme of the US and its valets, and drive out the aggressors out of Indochina.

SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE

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